(b) if so, the main demands of such PSUs particularly BHEL and NTPC;

(c) whether Government are in favour of giving more powers to these PSUs for taking investments decision besides refurbishing the boards with induction of more professionals as directors; and

(d) the decisions taken at the above mentioned meeting held in New Delhi recently?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Ministry met the representatives of the Navratna PSUs inclusive of BHEL and NTPC and had discussions about possible greater financial and managerial autonomy in order to help them become global gaints. A final decision will be taken soon.

NRF fails to create alternate job

3875. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news report appearing in the 'Observer' dated 08th March, 1997 under the caption "NRF fails to create alternate jobs";

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the observations made therein;

(c) whether Government have undertaken a comprehensive reviw of national Renewable Fund recently since its inception and details thereof by standard norms of assessment in terms of the set targets; and

(d) details of shortcomings/failure of the programme, present thinking of Government in the matter and changes proposed in the NRF during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF INUDSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The review of schemes under the NRF is a continuing exercise. The implementation is monitered by the Ministeries/Departments concerned as also by the Empowered Authority of the NRF.

Assistance from the fund is presently restricted to voluntry retirement schemes in the Central Public Sector Under takings and counselling, retraining, redeployment assistance to rationalised workers of the organised sector.

Analysis of Foreign Direct Investment

3876. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the Foreign Direct Investment proposal cleared State-wise an sector-wise during 1996-97 and how does it compare with the preceding year;

(b) the details of emerging trends in Foreign Direct Investments as a result of fresh policy initiatives and incentive package;

(c) the most favoured destinations (States) for FDI during the last five years along with locational preferences;

(d) the total FDI cleared so far along with the extent of actual investment over the last five years;

(e) the action proposed for 1997-98 with estimates of FDI in various sectors; and

(f) whether critical study of FDI has been entrusted to professional experts for mid-course correction in policy, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) A statement of Foreign Direct Investment proposals cleared state-wise and sector-wise during the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 is attached annexure [*see* Appendix 180, annexure No. 82]

(b) In the year of 1996, 1559 foreign investment proposals amounting to Rs. 36146.81 crores have been approved which is higher than 1355 proposals approved in 1995 amounting to Rs. 32071.72 crores. The amount of FDI approved in 1996 is highest in the past five years thereby indicating growing interest in India as an attractive investment destination.

(c) The choice of location of projects depends on the commercial judgement of investor. It depends on the availability of adequate and dependable infrastructure facilities as power, land, water, etc. The States of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Gujarat, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, West Bengal, etc. have attracted more FDI.